



Vol. 51 No. 25

July 8, 2005

Aviano Air Base, Italy

Fly Bys

Pavement painting

The parking lots of the Aviano Health and Wellness Center, movie theater, bank area, the Dragon Fitness Center, flight medicine, Pass and ID, 31st Communications Squadron and the Italian Air Force command section will be coned off in sections for painting beginning Monday until July 22. Call Staff Sgt. Nicolas Alessi at Ext. 6018 for more information.

Mandatory briefing

There is mandatory ability to survive and operate training scheduled in preparation for the upcoming exercise. The training takes place in Area D, Monday 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. or 6 to 8 p.m. or Tuesday 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. All 31st Fighter Wing Airmen must attend at least one session. Attendees must bring their gas mask with hood and carrier. The 31st FW leadership highly recommends all Airmen bring plenty of water as high temperatures are expected. Due to limited parking space, carpooling is recommended.



Airman 1st Class Scherrie Gates

Up close

Airman 1st Class Sean Ingalls, a hydraulic systems journeyman with the 31st Maintenance Squadron, inspects a metering pin of a nose landing gear shock strut. The hydraulic shop is responsible for providing three-level maintenance on all aircraft hydraulic systems assigned to the 31st Fighter wing.

Lt. Gen. Bishop becomes new vice commander

By Master Sgt. Mona Ferrell

U.S. Air Forces in Europe News Service

Lt. Gen. Robert D. Bishop Jr. assumed the position of U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander July 6.

In his new position, General Bishop will conduct and coordinate offensive and defensive air and space operations for U.S. European Command on behalf of the USAFE commander. The general will also be responsible for providing administrative and logistical support to all Air Force units and activities in USAFE's geographical area of responsibility, which includes Europe and Russia, as well as regions in Africa and the Middle East. In addition, he will be in charge of Air Force negotiations with foreign and U.S. officials.

The general said he is excited about his new position.

"USAFE's strategic presence and unparalleled readiness are key enablers for our

See Vice, page 8 —

Spouse it up: All Aviano spouses and children are invited to a free barbecue picnic 11 a.m. Wednesday in Area D.

Aviano Sortie Board

sortie: n, a flight of a combat aircraft on a mission

	Hours	Sorties
31st FW goal	210.4	66
ahead/behind	-12.8	-4
555th FS goal	22.9	16
ahead/behind	-3.7	-2
510th FS goal	187.5	50
ahead/behind	-9.1	-2



Combat care

Taking care of five children isn't an easy task, especially when your spouse is deployed. Luckily, the Combat Care Team is here.

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Fourth of July

The Aviano community celebrated America's 229th Independence Day with a carnival and traditional fireworks display.

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31st Fighter Wing

Commander's Corner

By Brig. Gen. Robert Yates
31st Fighter Wing commander

Howdy Aviano!

It's been a couple of weeks since my last article, so we've got a bunch of items to catch up on. First, thanks for showing up at the June 30 Wing Commander's Safety Call, and thanks for making wise driving and consumption decisions over the holiday weekend: zero major accidents and zero DUIs – that's what I'm talkin' about!

Second, I've got a number of kudos to pass out to deserving individuals and organizations. Thanks to our protectors – Security Forces Squadron and the Carabinieri – for protecting us here even when the rest of us have time off. Thanks to our Services Squadron for putting together a fun filled activity agenda to make the 4th of July 2005 a very special weekend for us all. In the end, the fireworks display was world class – I've never seen a better display!

Thanks to our commanders for taking care of world class people – your leadership shows, and believe me, it counts. Thanks to our deployed members – they keep America's Liberty Torch burning bright. Thanks to spouses of our deployed – without your support we have no Aviano Family – and Barb and I believe caring for the Aviano Family is Job #1! And finally, thanks to the Pordenone Chamber of Commerce and the Consortium Wine Friulian Gravel for their generosity at the food and beverage sample tent on July 4th – it was bellissima!

Now I'll move on to a more serious subject – vehicle accidents. The sun does not rise and set on any single day at Aviano without at least a couple of fender benders. Many of these are blue on blue – right here on base. Most of these are due to folks in too much of a hurry, with the most common circumstances leading to collision being pulling out of parking slots or following another car too closely. In the local area,

the main culprit is not adhering to traffic signs and/or trying to drive too aggressively to blend in. My advice in all cases – slow down, drive consistent with your American background and training, and get there in one piece. Your welfare is vitally important to the mission of this base; slow down and do it the right way. Drive safe...always and everywhere.

I'd like to also provide an update on upcoming activities. On July 13 Family Support is hosting a "Spouse it Up" gathering in Area D. The purpose is to provide a venue for spouses and little ones to get together, break bread (hamburgers and hot dogs!), and enjoy the outdoors together. Of course, military members are welcome as well. We'd love to see spouses of our deployed members there as well. Barbara will be there in the midst of the revelry, and I've agreed to flip burgers. The fun will begin at 11 a.m. – we hope to see many or all of you there. This is an opportunity for Family Support, Barb and I to say a very sincere thanks to the heart of the Air Force – our spouses! And while I'm talking about family – don't forget the grand opening of the new base theater on July 15 – I'll be there with bells on to watch the new Star Wars movie promptly at 2 p.m. that fine day. Hope to see y'all there as well.

In closing, I'd remind you all that so much is going right on this base, and that's because you all are pulling together and 'playing team ball.' Please know that I appreciate it...and I know everyone up to the top of USAFE and the Air Force does as well. Have an enjoyable weekend, be safe, and may God Bless each and every one of you!



Brig. Gen. Robert Yates presents a coin to Airman 1st Class Leonard Gentile III, after he spent the day shadowing him.

Aviano Airman of the Week

Name: Airman 1st Class Leonard Gentile III
Unit: 31st Operations Support Squadron, intelligence analyst
Time in service: Almost two years
Hometown: Cox's Creek, Ky.
Hobbies: Hiking, Reading, Computers, Writing
Why Joined: For the opportunity to complete my bachelor's degree and have the money to begin my masters.
Accomplishments: "Airman Gentile was selected for the because of his exceptional initiative, work ethic, and attitude. He has a terrific future in the Air Force, and we wanted him to have this peek into the daily routine of our wing leadership," said Maj. Mark Mitchem, 31st OSS commander.



Senior Airman Nichole Adamowicz

Snip, snip

Brig. Gen. Robert Yates, 31st Fighter Wing commander, along with other local and visiting dignitaries perform the ribbon cutting to the new

consolidated Post Office and Base Theater piazza June 30. The theater officially opens for business July 15 and the post office opens in August.

Legal brief: Tire shredder claim briefings are held at the legal office 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Call Ext. 7884 for more information.

Exercise response tips

Reporting an attack

Use the S-A-L-U-T-E report as a quick and effective way to communicate ground enemy attack information up the chain of command.

Radio Discipline

- Think before you push-to-talk
- Be brief. The radio is not a phone
- Speak clearly into the microphone and use proper call signs
- Protect your radio
- Conduct radio checks
- Always be aware of OPSEC for radios, phones, discussions and computers
- Periodically check physical condition and battery connections
- Know your unit radio manager
- DO NOT hang anything from antenna

OPSEC is Everyone's Job... DO NOT:

- Use ranks and names of supervisors or commanders
- Broadcast social security account numbers, phone, or credit card numbers
- Discuss classified information
- Disclose specific locations
- Use profanity



Report Area	Information to Report
Size	The number of persons and vehicles seen or the size of an object
Activity	Description of enemy activity (assaulting, fleeing, observing)
Location	Where the enemy was sighted (grid coordinate or reference point)
Unit	Distinctive signs, symbols, or identification on people, vehicles, aircraft, or weapons (numbers, patches, or clothing type)
Time	Time the activity is observed
Equipment	Equipment and vehicles associated with the activity

Example of a S-A-L-U-T-E Report: "Six enemy soldiers, running away from the command post, heading towards the flightline. Uniforms solid green fatigues—possibly Republic Guards. Time was 0230 hours. Equipment—AK-47 rifles, backpacks and gas mask being carried."

Use the most expedient means necessary/possible for the urgency you place on the information you have to up channel. If your report needs to get to the commander NOW, use any means available!

- **Messenger**—most secure—most time consuming
- **Wire/telephone**—more secure than radio—not mobile and may be monitored
- **Radio**—fast and mobile—least secure. However, a secure radio lessens the possibility of being monitored and should always be used over an open net all equipment/vehicles associated with the activity

For more exercise tips, review AFMAN 10-100

RESCON CORNER

The 31st Fighter Wing is in **RESCON ALPHA**. It's been **29** days since the last driving under the influence incident.

Focus on Combat and Special Interest Programs

Project Cheer

This program (Creating Hope, Energy, Enthusiasm and Recreation) creates a fun environment for single and unaccompanied Airmen of all rank during the holiday season and winter months.



Airmen deployed

Airmen from the 603rd Air Control Squadron carry a tent while deployed in Afghanistan. The team set up a bare base and relocated tents for improved living conditions.

Aviano swimming pool: Call Ext. 5593 or visit the Aviano Intranet or 31st Services Squadron Web site to find out prices and hours.

Aviano maintainers make sure curtain gets raised

**By Senior Airman
Shaun Emery**
Air Force Print News

Like a Broadway show, the stars get all the attention. But behind the scenes, key roles must be performed for the show to go on.

The theater that the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing performs under features fast, agile fighter planes providing air support for troops on the ground. But without the hard work and dedication of aircraft maintainers working behind the scenes, the curtain could not be raised.

Airmen with the 510th and 332nd Aircraft Maintenance Units at Balad Air Base, Iraq, provide daily maintenance and preflight checks for F-16 Fighting Falcon sorties. Their mission is to ensure that pilots get in the air and back on the ground safely. It is a mission each Airman takes seriously.

"We want to ensure our pilots have a quality product for their missions," said Lt. Col. Dave Salva, the 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintenance operations officer. "Whether we're providing close-air support for troops, a show of force or



Senior Airman Tim Beckham

(l to r) Staff Sgt. James Lucas and Senior Airman Justin Foulsham work on an F-16 Fighting Falcon while deployed from Aviano.

serving as an eye from the sky, without maintained aircraft we couldn't do our mission."

Each plane is inspected from front to back

before each mission. The planes are stripped and rebuilt ensuring each part works properly. The work is tedious, and the ratio of flight hours to maintenance hours is stacked heavily on the maintenance side, Colonel Salva said.

Although deployed life may be new to some maintainers, the aircraft they maintain are not.

"We already know the systems on these aircraft," said Senior Master Sgt. Lloyd Muranaka, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 332nd EAMXS. "We know their history and their systems and what it takes to get them in the air."

Just like an automobile, aircraft have key systems that need great attention. Each one, like the egress system, is vital to pilots.

"It's their last resource to survival," said Tech. Sgt. Larry Vasquez, 510th AMU egress shop chief.

The checks maintainers make are the same ones they have been making since Day 1, but maintainers say complacency and shortcuts have no place in a deployed environment.

"Each check has a purpose," said Senior Airman Justin Foulsham, a 332nd EAMXS assisted dedicated crew chief. "It's not about rushing; it's about getting planes in the air."

Combat care programs help deployed families

By Airman 1st Class Sarah Gregory

31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs Vigilant editor

Deploying can be a stressful time for a person, especially if he or she has a family to think about. Wondering how spouses and children adjust to absences can cause unnecessary worry and strain. With a U.S. Air Forces in Europe directive called Combat Care designed to support families experiencing deployments, the separation is made a little easier.

Combat Care was created to improve the care, available resources, attention and information families receive while the military member is deployed. Teams are made up of family support centers, chaplains, child and youth services workers, life skills, health and wellness centers, first sergeants, unit key spouses, and volunteers.

The Aviano Family Support Center helps families here organize and prepare for long separations before the deployment.

"The Family Support Center is just a small organization under the umbrella name of Combat Care," said Master Sgt. Eric Alber, a family readiness coordinator. "Our responsibility is to ensure the spouses remaining behind during deployments are taken care of. We provide pre-deployment briefings to inform them of the different programs and also things to take care of before they deploy."

To make life easier during the deployment, the FSC has several programs available for spouses.

The family readiness program allows members to record themselves reading books so their kids can watch the video while they are gone, said Sergeant Alber. Spouses and children can also come down and record personalized messages and send the DVD to the deployed member.

Other benefits include the use of courtesy phones for calls down range and video phones which can be used if the deployed member also has the capability.

Making use of the free moral calls is Stefanie Mallard, spouse of deployed Tech. Sgt. Randy Mallard, 31st Communications



Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

Stefanie Mallard, wife of deployed Tech. Sgt. Randy Mallard, 31st Communications Squadron, home schools their five children: Emily age 12, Joshua age 9, Nathan age 7 and twins Rebekah and Sarah age 3.

Squadron. "We've done [the morale calls] two or three times. They're nice to have available. For our family, I think the programs that help us keep in contact are the most beneficial."

Spouses are also entitled to a free oil change for their car, explained Sergeant Alber. All they need to do is stop by with a copy of orders and the front desk at the FSC can fill out the paperwork.

The FSC also has key spouses in each squadron who are there to help out in any way they can. "They are a direct avenue for your concerns about your spouses' deployment," Sergeant Alber said.

Whether it's offering ways to stay in touch or preparing for a reunion, the Combat Care team is there to help families through every phase of a deployment.

"We need to ensure the families remaining behind know there is support if they need it," said Sergeant Alber.

Closure: The Aviano Thrift Shop is closed through July 18 for summer vacation. The thrift shop will resume normal hours July 19.

Vice, from page 1

our nation," said General Bishop. "As we continue to sustain and execute the Global War on Terrorism, I can't think of a more exciting place to be than here in USAFE.

"I look forward to the opportunity of building lasting relationships with our host-nation friends and allies and working with the courageous men and women of USAFE, as well as any challenges this new position brings," the general added.

And, General Bishop is up to the challenge, said Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAFE commander.

"Our efforts today ensure our forces are ready to meet the challenges of the future," said General Foglesong. "General Bishop brings with him the correct strategic vision and focus that's needed to forge ahead as we continue to lead the way for the most respected, all-purpose air and space force in the world."

The general, who is a command pilot with more than 5,300 flight hours in the C-141, T-41 and C-17, was previously assigned as the assistant deputy chief of staff for Air and Space Operations at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon. He has extensive wartime and contingency experience, and with tours at four strategic airlift bases, he also has a vast mobility background.



Staff Sgt. Shannon Kluge

Lt. Gen. Arthur J. Lichte, USAFE vice commander, receives a proper "hose down" after his "fini" flight at Ramstein June 29. The general departed Ramstein Air Base, Germany, June 30 for his new assignment as Headquarters U.S. Air Force assistant vice chief of staff.

The Feel

Being overseas means life is different than you used to. Different cultures. Different customs. Of July weekend, Aviano celebrated Independence Day. The base pulled out all the stops, providing live music, rides, games, contests and



Above: Martin Weckerlein chows down during a watermelon eating contest. His opponent, Staff. Sgt. Mark Underwood, 30, Eliana Sheets, won the contest, eating 10 slices. The base also hosted a hot dog eating contest, won by Staff. Sgt. Simmons ate seven and a half hot dogs.

Left: The weekend-long festivities were topped off with a fireworks display. In addition to fireworks, events included live music, dancing, batting cage contests, a chili cook-off and softball games. "Even though we are overseas, it was nice to see the base put on such a display for us," said Airman 1st Class Zayra Blandon-Sobalvarro, 603rd Air Control Squadron.

of Americana

They can be very different than many of us are used to, ways of life and norms. But this Fourth of July, community members were treated to an old-fashioned Americana celebration. The 31st Services Squadron provided a carnival atmosphere complete with a dazzling fireworks display.



Staff Sgt. Julie Weckerlein

During the watermelon eating contest, while the 31st Maintenance Squadron takes a break. The 31st SVS also provided a watermelon eating contest. Staff Sgt. Shannon Simmons, 16th Air Force, participated in the contest and ate 10 dogs in 10 minutes.

Right: Live bands like Velvet Dress and the Plug In Baby band kept the Aviano community entertained. **Below:** Children and adults lined up to experience the thrill of the carnival rides.



Airman 1st Class Scherrie Gates



Staff Sgt. Michael Holzworth

How do they do that?

Firework makers fill the night sky with myriad effects in displays that are popular all over the world. Although the art dates back to ancient China, most of the effects seen in a typical display are inventions of this century. An example is the development of colored flames. Before the 19th century, only various yellows and oranges could be produced with steel and charcoal. Chlorates, an invention of the late 18th century and an industrial product of the 19th century, added basic reds and greens to the mix. Good blues and purples were not developed until this century, although it is not unusual to find unsafe display formulas for blue stars in earlier literature.

An aerial firework is normally formed as a shell that consists of four parts: a container which is usually pasted paper and string formed into a cylinder; stars - spheres, cubes or cylinders of a sparkler-like composition; a bursting charge - firecracker-like charge at the center of the shell and the fuse which provides a time delay so the shell explodes at the right altitude.

The shell is launched from a mortar. The mortar might be a short, steel pipe with a lifting charge of black powder that explodes in the pipe to launch the shell. When the lifting charge fires to launch the shell, it lights the shell's fuse. The shell's fuse burns while the shell rises to its correct altitude, and then ignites the bursting charge so it explodes.

La Leche League

The La Leche League of Aviano meets at 10 a.m. Monday in the Chapel Education Center, Bldg. 168. The group welcomes pregnant and breastfeeding mothers for an informal discussion on breastfeeding and nutrition. For more information, call 0434-75-5606 or 348-242-5373 or e-mail LLLAviano@yahoo.com.

Sure Start program

Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe elementary schools are accepting applications for the Sure Start program for the 2005-2006 school year. All Sure Start students must be command sponsored. Four-year-old children who are considered for Sure Start must have been born on or before October 31, 2001. Four-year-olds whose sponsor is equivalent of E-1/GS-1 to E-4/GS-4 have first priority for enrollment in Sure Start. Program applications are available at Aviano Elementary. For more information, call Beverly Erdmann at DSN: 355-8764.

Munition inventory

To comply with annual inventory requirements, the 31st Maintenance Squadron munitions flight is conducting a closed warehouse inventory Aug. 1-12. The inventory takes place in the storage area and the flight line. Only emergency requests submitted in writing and approved by the group commander or equivalent will be approved. For more information, call Staff Sgt. Steve Metcalf or Tech. Sgt. Robert Bower at Ext. 7419.

Child development

Learn more about child development and behavior, discipline, ages and stages at parent classes. Meet with other parents of children aged 2 to 12 years for support and networking. Class meets in four sessions 6:30 to 8 p.m. Aug 9, 16, 23 and 30 in Bldg. 108, at Area One. Call Family Advocacy at Ext. 5667 to sign up.

Combined briefing

The next Palace Front and Palace Chase Briefing is

2 p.m. Monday in the 31st Mission Support Group Conference Room, Bldg. 1403, in the Flightline area. As an outprocessing requirement, the Palace Front briefing is mandatory for all re-enlistment eligible Airmen who are electing to separate from the Air Force. Airmen interested in early separation through Palace Chase can also attend this briefing. For more information, call Master Sgt. Janet Boyles at Ext. 4919.

Online payments

The 31st Comptroller Squadron advises customers of a scam occurring with MyEasyPay.com versus myeasypayment.com. Payments can be made to the Bank of America on myeasypayment.com. Government travel cardholders can make payments online at www.myeasypayment.com with the dollar amount owed, the account number and security code from the back of the card and the checking account and bank routing number from a personal check. For more information, call Bank of America customer service at 1-800-472-1424.

Civilian employment

Beginning Monday, external candidates applying for U.S. positions must use the Air Force Personnel Center Web site instead of local civilian personnel office. All interested and available candidates can apply online at <https://ww2.afpc.randolph.af.mil/resweb/> in order to receive consideration for employment in a foreign area. For more information, call Ext. 7291.

Dental exams

Pediatric dental exams at the Base Chapel Annex are suspended during the months of July, August, and September. Appointments can still be made by calling the dental clinic at Ext. 5060.

Job opportunity

The Aviano Thrift Shop

seeks someone with financial experience to conduct an audit on their books. The shop will pay for this service. Volunteers are also needed. For more information on the positions, call Ext. 5428 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Girl Scouts

The Aviano Girl Scouts are hosting a western theme round-up camp August 9 to 13 with a sleep-over August 12. Cost for registered Girl Scouts is \$40 and \$50 for non-registered girls. For more information, call Valery Hodgson at 0434-30-768521 or e-mail her at cookie6886@yahoo.com.

Parking tickets

Visitors to the Grey Mall should use a windshield time-dial in their vehicles during peak times to avoid receiving a parking ticket. A blue time-dial can be acquired through your local insurance company and select service stations around the community.

Free child care

Aviano community members ready to PCS or who have just arrived with a child at least 1 year of age are entitled to free childcare. The Childcare for PCS Certificate is good for 60 days prior to leaving and 60 days after arriving at a new duty station. Call Ext. 5407 for more information.

Housing inprocessing

All new natural gas and gasolio customers must have a valid and stamped housing contract. Gasolio customers need to allow seven to 10 days for delivery. Natural gas customers must bring the meter serial number, meter reading and allow two weeks for the gas to be turned on. To expedite gasolio deliveries and natural gas connections, customers are reminded to stop by Home Fuels before noon. Any questions or concerns may be addressed at the Home Fuels office at Ext. 5083.

Reel Times

Today, 5 p.m. - "Madagascar" Rated PG - Alex the lion, Marty the zebra, Melman the giraffe, and Gloria the hippo have spent their lives living in a zoo. When Marty falls in with a crowd of devious penguins, they bring him along in their escape attempt. Alex leads the gang on a rescue that takes them outside the zoo for the first time. Starring: Ben Stiller, Chris Rock

Today, 8 p.m. - "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy" Rated PG - Arthur Dent is having a very bad day. His house is about to be bulldozed, he discovers that his best friend is an alien and to top things off, Planet Earth is about to be demolished to make way for a hyperspace bypass. Starring: Martin Freedman, Mos Def

Saturday, 2 p.m. - "Madagascar" Rated PG

Saturday, 7 p.m. - "The Interpreter" Rated PG-13 - Alleging she has overheard a death threat against an African head of state, Silvia's life is turned upside down as she becomes a target of the killers and is placed under the protection of federal agent. Starring: Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn

Sunday, 2 p.m. - "Madagascar" Rated PG

Sunday, 7 p.m. - "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy" Rated PG

Tuesday, 7 p.m. - "Madagascar" Rated PG

Wednesday, 7 p.m. - "The Interpreter" Rated PG-13

Thursday, 7 p.m. - "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy" (Titles and times are courtesy of www.aafes.com, and are subject to change.)

Fly Bys

Antique markets

Local Italian villages hold regularly scheduled antique markets. The following schedule identifies the market day for area villages: first Sunday of the month - Aviano, Casarsa, Codroipo, San Quirino; second Sunday - Asolo, Montepulciano, Portobuffole, Florence, Montegrotto, Sacile, Noale, Villa Franca, and Udine; third Sunday - Este, Godega Sant'Urbana, Montebelluna, Fontanellato, Padova, Badoere, Siena, Soave and Trieste.

Travel Web site

Americans with travel plans should visit <http://travel.state.gov> to get the latest travel advisories in Europe. Maintained by the U.S. Department of State, the Web site offers a list of places suspected of anti-American activity, as well as other information for travelers. Call the Office of Special Investigation at Ext. 7643 with questions about the site or other antiterrorism force protection measures.

Experience Europe

The Information Tickets and Travel office offers group and customized tour packages for one-day trips, express travel, overnight and morale tours, sight-seeing and shopping trips. The office can arrange travel and reservations for squadron and private tours as well as daily and weekly tours. For more information, call Ext. 5072.

Traveling reminders

People traveling around Europe are encouraged to remember the following:

- Don't wear clothes that easily identify you as American, such as those displaying the flag, American colleges or sports teams.
- Avoid talking about religion or politics with strangers. If a person ever approaches you with the intent to start such a discussion, ignore him or her and walk away.

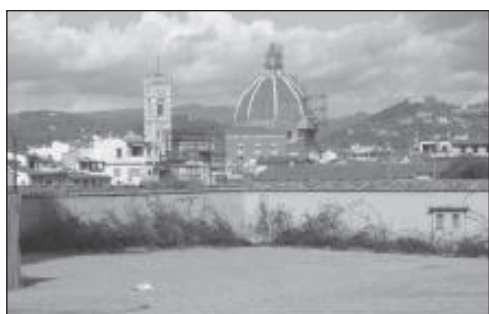


Courtesy photo

Name this vacation location

With medieval dungeons and Calypso's Cave, this island is mythical. The narrow cobblestone streets of its towns are crowded with Norman cathedrals and baroque palaces. The countryside is home to some of the oldest known human structures in the world. Luckily, this island has a huge tourism industry, but is not yet overrun with high-rise resorts. There is a religious festival season that lasts six months, ending just in time for the holidays. Some of the island treats include wine and nougat. Be the fifth person to send the correct name of this location to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Dustin Troyner, 31st Operations Support Squadron, for correctly naming Nuremberg, Germany as last week's Vacation Location.

Air Force travel online: Visit www.aftravelonline.com for information on airplane and train tickets and hotel reservations.



File photo

Florence, Italy is considered one of the art capitals of the world, home to the Uffizi Art Gallery and Michelangelo's *David*.

Information, Tickets and Tours

Upcoming tours from the Information, Tickets and Travel office include:

- Saturday - Croatia by boat
- Saturday - Wine tasting in Soave
- July 16 - Switzerland Express (Lugano lake and chocolate shopping)
- July 16 - Guided Florence
- July 20 - Lignano beach and Gulliverland Aquarium

- July 23 - Opera La Boheme in the Verona Amphitheatre.

The ITT escort will ensure the group arrives and departs from the destination as scheduled and will do everything possible to make the trip safe and comfortable. He or she will provide general information about the area, as well. Call Ext. 5072 or 5026.



1st Lt. Justin Herman

Got green?

Senior Airman Diego Solis tees off at the northernmost golf tournament in the world in Thule, Greenland July 3. He had to climb 800 feet of shale rock to reach the nine-hole, par 3 golf course which overlooks polar ice caps. Golfers here at Aviano need not go to such feats to putt around. They need only to hit the Aviano Alpine Golf course with its lush greenery and mountain views. Call Ext. 7386 for more information.

Heat stroke: Some signs for this include hot, red and dry skin and no sweating.

Did you know

that President George W. Bush has a HealthierUS initiative designed to help Americans, especially children, live longer, better and healthier lives? The President's initiative encourages all Americans to:

- Be physically active every day - Many chronic diseases can be prevented with modest exercise. If just 10 percent of adults began walking regularly, America could save \$5.6 billion in costs related to heart disease.
- Eat a nutritious diet - Americans should avoid excessive food portions and increase their fruit and vegetable consumption, which can prevent heart disease, cancer and osteoporosis.
- Get preventive screenings - A simple test like a cholesterol screen or blood pressure check can reveal current health status and identify a need to adjust diet or behavior.
- Make healthy choices - Avoid tobacco and drugs as well as the abuse and underage use of alcohol. Make smart choices everyday. (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/fitness/>)

Fly Bys

Mountain biking

Families can go on a free mountain bike ride 10 a.m. Saturday, departing from Area One next to the community center. For more information, call Ext. 8623. For more information, call Aviano's Outdoor Recreation at Ext. 8623.

Gone fishing

Aviano Outdoor Recreation hosts a trout fishing trip 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 16. Cost is 3.50 Euro per kilogram and there is a \$5 transportation fee per person. Sign up by July 8.

Go deep-sea fishing July 24. The trip departs from the Outdoor Recreation Center at 6 a.m. The all-day trip costs 50 Euro and includes transportation, lunch on board and tackle and bait. For more information on either trip, call Ext. 8623.

Stars and strikes

Now through August, bowlers can earn prizes by collecting punches on three levels of punch cards. Every card completed becomes an entry for monthly prizes and a chance to win \$500.

The Aviano Bowling Center is in Area One, Bldg. 176. It's open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays through Thursdays and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturdays. Call Ext. 7487 for more information.

Open volleyball

Aviano volleyball buffs are invited to open gym volleyball 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays, beginning July 10 at the Aviano Dragon Fitness Center. The entire gym will be open to volleyball players during those hours. For more information, call Ext. 7459.

Crud tournament

A Crud tournament is scheduled for July 15, with refreshments at 5:30 p.m. and the games at 6 p.m. at the La Bella Vista. This tournament is opened to officers only.

UPCLOSE

and personal with Aviano's best



Staff Sgt. Bernard Harper was recently selected for the Chief's Choice award by Chief Master Sgt. Greg Smith, because "he defines the consummate team player." Described by his supervisor as the cornerstone of reliability, this 31st Civil Engineer Squadron troop is active in the community, church, and local Boy Scout chapter. In addition, he has two deployments under his belt and is actively pursuing higher education having already earned his Community College of the Air Force degree. "Sergeant Harper's attitude and professionalism reflect the kind of Airman we want to represent us in today's Air Force."



Q: You have been in the Air Force almost six years. What is your favorite Air Force memory thus far?

A: My favorite Air Force memory was marching in a military parade in Rome with the Honor Guard. We marched with around 10,000 troops from 16 different countries. It was an honor representing the U.S. military contingent with all the sister services.

Q: What advice do you have for the Air Force's newest recruit?

A: Stay on top of your recruiter. Don't be afraid

to ask plenty of questions. Make sure you know what is best for you.

Q: What is your job title and a brief layman terms description:

A: I am a Readiness Technician Program Manager for the 31st Fighter Wing Full Spectrum Threat Response program. I have to ensure the Airmen are prepared for any attack, weapons of mass destruction incident, or natural disaster.

Q: What's the funniest thing that happened to you on the job?

A: Someone played a phone prank on me.

Q: What's your hometown?

A: Atlanta, Georgia

Q: Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

A: As a pillar to society

Q: Other than receiving the Chief's Choice, what are some of your other achievements?

A: I was nominated as an Honor Guard of the Quarter member.

(Compiled by Airman 1st Class Sarah Gregory, 31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs editor)

Kudos: Recognizing Those Who Serve

The 31st Fighter Wing leadership wishes to congratulate the second quarter Small Unit Award winners. The winners are: Capt Scott Walker, 31st Fighter Wing; Master Sgt. Beth Epperson, 724th Air Mobility Squadron; Staff Sgt. Melinda Cena, 724th AMS; SrA Rachel Lauderbaugh, 724th AMS; Roberto Zanot, 724th AMS; Stefano Piccoli, 31st Comptroller Squadron and Dennis T. Royal 31st FW.

Congratulations to Chief Master Sergeant Frederick J. Pepe, who is the mission systems flight superintendent for the 31st Communications Squadron here. He is retiring after 20 years of service on July 14. The following are thoughts from his peers as he takes this next life step:

• "Not only is Chief Pepe a superb Airman but a wonderful person. His dedication to a job well done is second to none and I have enjoyed simply seeing him while conducting business through Comm. Squadrons Chain of command. When I first became supervisor of SCMPs, Chief Pepe, although he had not been formally introduced to me, was the first to shoot me an e-mail congratulating my promotion. Actions like this say it all!"

Franklin Shaunta, 31 Communications Squadron

• "Chief Pepe always leads by example; he lives in the gym and he is a dedicated runner. I saw him many times running on the road out to the back gate. I have tremendous respect for him."

Master Sgt. Joseph Schwartz Joseph, 31st CS

• "Unsung hero spending personal time on weekends to help pitch mail. Just to help - no fanfare."

Master Sgt. Ronald Dixon Ronald, 31st CS

• "Chief Pepe has been my most influential boss in 18 years. He's always given me his time and shared with me those things that I needed to know to take care of my own troops properly. I hope I can make the impact for my folks that he's made for me. I'll definitely keep him on my speed dial!"

Master Sgt. Michael Freeman, 31st CS



The Cornerstone

An indispensable and fundamental basis

The Cornerstone Page is devoted to those who support junior enlisted, NCOs, CGOs and spouses. It's to share advice, ideas and opinions dealing with life in the Air Force and Aviano. It's also a forum to recognize those around us. The Cornerstone Page will also offer Air Force trivia and facts.

Submission info: We want to hear from you. Flex your writing talents and share your thoughts with us and the community.

Commentaries: Writers can send commentaries to vigileer@aviano.af.mil. Commentaries must be 500 to 700 words. Topics must be applicable to the Air Force, Aviano and appeal to the general public. For questions or concerns, call the Vigileer at Ext. 7344.

Kudos: Aviano members can send kudos to Vigileer@aviano.af.mil with the subject line "Kudos." Kudos can be submitted for appreciation, retirements, awards, good service, promotions and graduations.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting information is close of business Thursday one week prior to publication. Faxed articles will not be accepted by the staff. The public affairs office is in Bldg. 1360, Room 19.